

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN SA 05225 152045Z

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ABF-01 IGA-02 AID-05 /019 W

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R 152017Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2687

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

UNCLAS SAN SALVADOR 5225

FOR LA/OPNS (WASHINGTON); AG (PANAMA)

E.O.

11652: N/A

SUBJECT: GAO REVIEW INTERNATIONAL HOUSING ACTIVITIES IN EL  
SALVADOR

1. GAO AUDITORS SPENT APPROXIMATELY 4 WEEKS IN EL SALVADOR  
REVIEWING HOUSING PROGRAMS BY ALL INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES AND  
FOREIGN DONORS.

2. GENERAL CONCLUSIONS REACHED BY AUDITORS ARE AS  
FOLLOWS:

A. THERE APPEARS TO BE NO COORDINATION AMONG GOAS AGENCIES  
ACTIVE IN HOUSING PROGRAMS. ALSO, GOES GIVES LOW PRIORITY TO  
LOW INCOME HOUSING AND THUS GAO TEAM QUESTIONS ADVISABILITY  
FURTHER INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY IN THIS ARAA. ACCORDINGLY, GAO  
AUDITORS APPEARED TO BELIEVE THAT LOW INCOME HOUSING SHOULD NOT  
BE A PRIORITY AREA FOR EXTERNAL FINANCING.

B. IN GENERAL, HOUSING IS BEING CONSTRUCTED FOR MIDDLE  
AND UPPER MIDDLE CLASS FAMILIES RATHER THAN LOW INCOME FAMILIES.

C. OTHER U.S. AGENICES SHOULD CHECK WITH EMBASSY AND AID  
PRIOR TO MOVING INTO THE HOUSING AREA. THE INTERAMERICAN  
FOUNDATION SPECIFICALLY WAS MENTIONED IN THIS REGARD.

E. THEY STATED THAT THERE SEEMED TO BE NO JUSIFICATION FOR  
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PAGE 02 SAN SA 05225 152045Z

A SPECIAL HIG PROGRAM IN THIS SECTOR AND THAT IF LOW INCOME

HOUSING WAS CONSIDERED AN AID PRIORITY, IT SHOULD BE PART OF A MISSION'S STRATEGY AND INCLUDED IN ITS BILATERAL PROGRAM WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT. ALSO CRITICAL OF HIG BECAUSE IT CONSIDERS ROCAP SURVEILLANCE INSUFFICIENT. GAO AUDITOR NOTED THAT PRIVATE SECTOR IN EL SALVADOR DOING BETTER JOB THAN INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES IN QUALITY AND COST OF HOUSING CONSTRUCTION.

LOZANO

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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** AGAO, OTRA, ES  
**To:** STATE  
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